

REMARKS

Claims 1-19, 21, 23 and 24 are pending in the above-identified application. Claim 20 has been cancelled. Claim 22 has been inserted into claim 21, and correspondingly cancelled. Claim 23 has been amended so as to depend from claim 21.

All Claims Are Allowable

The Final Office Action of March 10, 2005, indicated that claims 1-19 were allowed, and that claims 22 and 23 were in allowable form, but were merely objected to as depending upon rejected base claims. The only rejected claims were 20, 21 and 24.

Claim 20 has been cancelled. Allowable claim 22 has been inserted into claim and correspondingly cancelled. Thus, claim 21 is now in allowable form. Claim 23 has been amended so as to depend from allowable claim 21, and claim 24 also depends from allowable claim 21. Thus, all of the previously rejected claims have either been cancelled or placed into allowable form such that all of the presently pending claims are now in allowable form.

Request for Entry of Claim Amendments

It is respectfully requested that the insertion of allowable claim 22 into claim 21 and the change in claim 23 such that this claim now depends from allowable claim 21, along with the cancellation of claims 20 and 22, are all amendments which remove all outstanding issues and raise no new issues. Consequently, all of these claim amendments should be entered of record and fully considered by the Patent Examiner under 37 C.F.R. 1.116.

Conclusion

It is submitted for the reasons stated above that the present claims define patentable subject matter such that this application should now be placed condition for allowance.

If any questions arise regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868), in the Washington Metropolitan Area at the phone number listed below.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2448, under Order No. 3382-0102P from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 10, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By  _____
Andrew D. Meikle

Registration No.: 32,868
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Rd
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant